

START BIG MOVEMENT TO SEND COLORED NURSES TO EUROPE; WOMEN HOLD PATRIOTIC MEETING

The first definite move to secure the recognition of colored nurses by the United States and the American Red Cross was made at the Lafayette Theatre Sunday afternoon at the large and enthusiastic mass meeting held for girls and women, under the auspices of the New York War Camp Community Service.

Although thousands of nurses are needed in France and daily calls are being made for volunteers in this country, neither the United States Government nor the American Red Cross has shown a willingness to avail itself of the services of trained and experienced colored nurses. There are cases on record in which colored nurses of light complexion have been dismissed when their racial identity became known.

Sunday's big meeting was presided over by Fred R. Moore, who made a spirited talk on behalf of colored nurses. George Gordon Battle, a prominent member of the New York Bar and a Southerner by birth, also spoke out strongly against drawing the color line against Negro nurses.

The presence of registered nurses from Lincoln Hospital, and members of the Red Cross auxiliaries in uniforms helped to make the scene picturesque.

367th Plays Inspiring Music.

A feature of the program was the inspiring music furnished by the 367th Infantry Band, E. E. Thompson, bandmaster, and the singing led by Sergt. George Battle of the "Buffaloes," assisted by members of the Y. W. C. A. and audience.

Fred R. Moore was introduced as presiding officer by Rowland Hayes, director of the New York War Camp Community Service. Mr. Hayes dwelt on the need of co-operation, stating that the services of both white and colored women were needed at this time.

Mr. Moore in making a plea on behalf of colored nurses said, in part:

"We have trained colored nurses who are ready to go to the front and minister to the wounded. We have contributed liberally to the American Red Cross Fund. We draw no color line. Our nurses are no longer content to stay here, and the American Red Cross must stop 'passing the buck' to the War Department whenever our nurses ask to be sent to the front.

"We want the best white women and men to tell the American Red Cross that the millions of colored sympathizers with the United States in the war are not satisfied with the treatment of our trained colored nurses. We don't

want a black Red Cross, but a universal Red Cross with every vestige of the old anti-colored prejudices wiped out, and with nothing else required from its workers but ability, respectability and character."

The speaker also referred to the disinclination of the Navy Department to enlist Negroes only as mess men. He asserted that there were Negroes in the Navy in the various branches although they were passing for white.

In his interesting talk George Gordon Battle declared that he had every reason to know that the trained colored nurse is as competent as any in the world and spoke affectionately of having been reared by a colored foster-mother. Mr. Battle called upon the colored women to participate more actively in war work.

British Officer Speaks.

Capt. Edward W. Whitwell of the British War Mission, made a fine talk, dwelling on the barbarous acts of the Germans toward their prisoners and contrasting their conduct with that of the Allies. The speaker said the Allies treated German prisoners well and decently buried the bodies of the enemy. The valor of the colored American soldier is not new to Great Britain, who appreciates the part the race is playing in the World War, the speaker asserted.

Lieut. O. E. McKaine of the 367th Infantry, expressed the hope that when the colored soldier returned from France where he is fighting to make the world safe for democracy that he would find a real democracy at home.

Miss Tatham, Metropolitan secretary of the War Camp Community Service, told of the aim of the organization to help the soldiers.

Mrs. W. A. Hunton announced that a recreation center for girls would be opened in Harlem next week.

The following communication was read from Col. James A. Moss of the 367th Infantry:

Headquarters 367th Infantry,
Camp Upton, N. Y.,
May 9, 1918.

Miss Alice B. Beer,
War Camp Community Service,
15 E. 40th St., New York.

My dear Miss Beer:

It is with genuine regret that a previous engagement of long standing makes it impossible for me to accept your kind invitation to attend the patriotic rally for colored girls and women to be held at the Lafayette Theatre Sunday afternoon, May 12, under the auspices of the Girls' Division of the New York Community Service.

In the national crisis that we are now facing, the country needs the help of our girls and women as well as that of our boys and men, and it is only with the united effort of our men, women, boys and girls that we will be able to win this war.

The objects of the Girls' Division of the War Camp Community Service are as splendid as they are patriotic. The division gives our girls and women an excellent chance to "do their bit," a chance I feel sure they will eagerly take advantage of.

"The colored people of our country have a long and honorable record of valor, loyalty and heroism. From the 'Black Regiment of Rhode Island' in the War of the Revolution to the 'Buffaloes' at Camp Upton, our colored soldiers have always given readily to the service of their country the best they had—the best any men have—their lives. That the record of our colored soldiers in the present war will form an illustrious page in the history of our country goes without saying, and in the mind of those who know our colored people there is no doubt that our colored girls and women will, in their way, do as much as our colored men.

Wishing your organization all the success which it so richly deserves, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) JAS. A. MOSS,
Colonel 367th Infantry.

A telegram was read from Miss S. Elizabeth Frazier, head of the Woman's Auxiliary of the 15th Regiment, who expressed sympathy for the good work being done by the community service.

The success of the meeting was due, in a large measure, to Miss Alice B.

"I pray Almighty God that you will who are graduate nurses, and who turn back to us. But whatever would be very glad of the opportunity may happen, be courageous and st to be of service to the city.

Dr. Brown

**Says Nurses
Are Available**

This is True Notwithstanding

**ing City's Lack of Interest in Training of
Colored Nurses**

The suggestion made by Mayor Preston to Health Commissioner Blake that the city employ colored nurses to work among the race has excited much favorable opinion among those who believe that the public health would be enhanced thereby.

Dr. Harry F. Brown, the energetic superintendent of Provident Hospital, has written to Commissioner Blake offering to cooperate in plans looking toward the securing of colored nurses. His letter follows:

Dr. John D. Blake,
Commission of Health,
Dear Sir:

We note with great interest the article in the newspapers regarding the suggestion of Mayor Preston, that Colored nurses might be employed to look after infant mortality among the Colored people, and the further suggestion by you that there were probably not enough Colored nurses in the city to be put in charge of that work.

The Health Department probably is not advised as to the number of Colored nurses in this city, and I am writing for the purpose of furnishing information that might be useful in case you determine to put into effect the suggestion made by the Mayor.

While the city, notwithstanding the large sums of money appropriated annually for hospital purposes, has not seen fit to interest itself in having young intelligent Colored women engage in this most useful work, and has refrained absolutely, through the Board of City Charities to assist in any way the only Colored hospital in the state of Maryland where Colored nurses can be trained, yet we can with pride boast of the results that have been accomplished at Provident Hospital in that we have graduated a great many very competent young women as nurses from this institution, some of whom are actively engaged in hospital and private work in other cities, and about fifteen are now engaged in this work right here in Baltimore City, although all of them are not the product of our institution.

If the Health Department desires to consider seriously the question of employing Colored nurses, it would give us great pleasure to take up with you the recommending of a number of competent young Colored women

While there are about a hundred or more hospitals and sanitariums throughout the country in which Colored women are trained in nursing, and great numbers are graduated annually, if you feel that this work should be put in charge of Colored nurses and there are not a sufficient number available in the city at this time, we would take pleasure in putting you in touch with nurses in other cities who would be able to meet any of the requirements of your Department.

We maintain at our hospital a Nurses Training School and always have at least six taking the course of three years' training who generally graduate from year to year.

Many of these young women come from the counties and other states, and after graduation return to their homes and engage in the work.

We think we could be of great service to the city if your Department felt inclined to take some interest in our hospital, and respectfully refer you for any information you may desire concerning our management to the Board of State Aid and Charities.

Having sent you a copy of our last annual report, I am,

Yours very truly,

HARRY T. BROWN,
Superintendent.

THE NURSE PROBLEM.

A Criticism of the Red Cross Practices.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The interesting letter of Miss Marie Cross Newhaus, appearing in THE SUN of June 6, regarding the treatment accorded her friends the colored nurses by the Red Cross, recalls vividly a similar experience that occurred to myself and friends some months ago, or to be exact, at the beginning of the war.

At that time I applied in answer to a fervid appeal by the Red Cross for nurses for enrolment. My qualifications were three years practical hospital experience, the latter year being operating room and clinical experience, and subsequent to graduation being in charge of the pupil nurses' training school. I certainly expected that my services would be acceptable. Several of my very competent graduate friends had expressed the patriotic desire to join me in the ranks. The question of compensation did not enter into the subject; we were willing and eager to give the very best in us to the alleviation of distress which we naturally anticipated would occur just as soon as our boys commenced to arrive over there.

Imagine our astonishment when, after as we fondly thought, we had fulfilled all conditions, we were informed by the person in charge of the Red Cross enrolment, who is apparently the same person the colored nurses fell afoul of that inasmuch as we are not "R. Ns." (magic letters) we could not be accepted by the Red Cross. In other words, that because the hospital from which we had graduated and from which we had re-

ceived years of practical experience and study was not registered we were taboo.

Our clinics, I might add, were the largest and most important on the East Side, attended by the most eminent specialists, who also superintended our lectures. Our operating clinics enjoyed a wide reputation for favorable results; still the technicality could not be overcome, to the detriment of the Red Cross.

An immediate appeal was taken from the decision to Mr. Davison, who had been appointed by the President to take charge of the American Red Cross, but that gentleman after a very short consideration referred our complaint back to the source of trouble. Of course, through this action our good intentions were thwarted, and the Government was deprived of whatever ability we possessed.

The dictator of Red Cross destinies refused to consider poor me and my friends on a par with her "superior ability." Needless to say the affront was resented, and the information quickly circulated among the thousands of other nurses similarly situated, who did not possess the entrée "R. N.," but who are still able to command the respect of the best representative physicians and surgeons of the city, and who are kept busily employed at fairly remunerative salaries.

Understand, we were not "trained" nurses, which term, by the way, means a nurse who completes the superficial six months course, but graduate nurses and quite willing at any time to pit our ability against that of the "R. N." who refused us recognition. We are to-day ready and willing to enter the Government service without compensation other than our own satisfied consciences, but absolutely not through the condescension of Miss Delano.

It may be lese majesty to criticize these important personages in charge of the Red Cross enrolment, but why should the United States suffer because of the hydrocephalic, narrow minded obstructionists at the helm of the Red Cross? If you would ascertain the truth simply ask Miss Delano if she is to-day willing to enroll a thousand graduate nurses who are not "R. Ns." and then possibly you will realize the buncombe that is handed out by these fervent appeals for nurses.

To Miss Newhaus I would simply suggest that she do as many of my nurse friends have done to obviate the snubs handed out by these snobbish individuals, and that is to try Canada. There she will find a welcome for all her honored nurse friends, who will be received with open arms, and where the strain of bigotry never smirches.

It certainly is peculiar that the British Government is eager to accept and utilize the abilities of our nurses who have been refused by the Red Cross here, and whose work on the other side is being highly appreciated and commended, according to the information I am in receipt of weekly from my friends who went over there through the agency of the British Red Cross.

NEW YORK, June 12. A NURSE.

NO MORE NURSES ARE NEEDED OVERSEAS

(Spec. The New York Age)

In a letter to Fred A. Moore dated December 18, Secretary of War

Newton D. Baker writes that it will not be possible to send any colored nurses abroad for duty.

The reason assigned for this decision is the reduction of the nursing force abroad as the need for their service grows less. The letter in full is as follows:

In reply to your letter of December 9, in which you state that hundreds of nurses have offered their services through the Red Cross to go to France, I desire to inform you that a group of colored nurses have been assigned to duty at Camp Sherman and at Camp Grant. Steps were being taken toward assigning others to service when the armistice was signed. This necessitated an immediate reduction of the nursing force in this country and steps are being taken toward the relief of approximately two thousand nurses from the service. Also, on account of the cessation of hostilities, no additional nurses are needed overseas and measures will be taken from time to time toward reducing the nursing force abroad as the need for their services grows less. It is regretted, therefore, that it will not be possible to send any colored nurses abroad for duty.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) NEWTON D. BAKER,

Secretary of War.

The letter of Mr. Moore referred to read as follows:

Hon. Newton D. Baker,

War Department,

Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing you in the interest of the hundreds of our nurses who have offered their services through the Red Cross to go to France. So far they have been refused permission to go, but they are still insistent that they should be permitted to go and render service to the boys over there, and the boys over there would be more than delighted to have them to nurse them and do for them as they only know how to do. It cannot be said that our nurses are not qualified, for we have some of the best in the service. This can be testified to by the best physicians throughout the country, and we cannot understand why the government has discriminated against them, when in every emergency they have offered their services freely. Our people have done their part in war loans, in Red Cross contributions and to the hundreds of thousands of dollars is you measure service by dollars. They richly deserve the square deal that they are asking for.

I am sure, Mr. Secretary, that you will reason this out and I feel reason it in a way to the advantage of our nurses. There is an opportunity here to show that the government believes in an absolute democracy in which no color line should be permitted to enter. There is a feeling that we are discriminated against. We have faith in you and your fairness. You have tried to show your interest in us and I am asking you now to go a step further and cut the red tape that stands between our nurses and their soldiers in France.

Asking your serious consideration of this request, I am with great respect

Very sincerely yours,

FRED A. MOORE.

Launch Campaign

To Send Negro

Nurses to France

Wounded Members of Race

Badly Need Services, Declare Speakers at Rally

N Y C TRIBUNE—

MAY 13, 1918

Efficiency Undoubted

Movement Strengthened by

Red Cross Workers and Lincoln Hospital Students

First steps in a campaign to have colored nurses sent to France to minister to the negro sick and wounded members of the American expeditionary force were taken yesterday at a patriotic rally, the first of its kind, held here for negro girls and women. Two thousand crowded the Lafayette Theatre, at Seventh Avenue and 131st Street, and applauded George Gordon Battle, lawyer, and Fred A. Moore, editor of "The New York Age," as they pleaded for the negro nurses.

"I have every reason to know that the trained colored nurse is as competent as any nurse in the world," said Mr. Battle, who said he had been reared by a colored foster-mother. He asked the colored women to participate more actively in war work, thus doing their share in aiding their men who are now in France or about to go over.

Mr. Moore, the chairman, spoke of the courage of the negro regiment, the 15th New York Infantry, now the 369th, somewhere in France.

"Looking at their bravery, and not their color, the French have received them with open arms," he said. "We are second to no part of our population in loyalty. But, speaking as an American black, I say we are not being treated right."

"We have colored Red Cross nurses, ready to go to the front and minister to the wounded in the hospitals. They are no longer content to stay here, and the American Red Cross

must stop 'passing the buck' to the white, and further stated that he was War Department whenever our nurses ask to be sent to the front.

"We want the best white women and men to tell the American Red Cross that the millions of colored sympathizers with the United States in the war are not satisfied with the treatment of our trained colored nurses. We don't want a black Red Cross, but a universal Red Cross, with every vestige of the old Southern anti-color prejudices wiped out, and with nothing else required from its workers but ability, respectability and character."

The speakers' arguments were strengthened by the presence in the audience by a squad of colored Red Cross workers and by the members of the senior class of colored nurses from Lincoln Hospital.

The rally was held under the auspices of the Girls' Patriotic Service League, which is a division of the New York War Camp Community Service. It is the first of a series of meetings being arranged for girls and women throughout greater New York.

Miss Addie Hunton, of the colored Y. W. C. A., announced that a recreation centre for colored girls would be opened in the neighborhood next week. Prominent women in Y. W. C. A. work who were at the rally included Mrs. William Fellowes Morgan, acting president of the New York association; Mrs. Cora L. Tathen, secretary of the Metropolitan Board, and Miss Lelia Frisell, of the National Board. The band of the 367th Infantry, from Camp Upton, was a feature.

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held their regular weekly meeting last Friday with Chairman A. J. Gary, presiding. An address was delivered by E. G. Mitchner, on the patriotism of the colored soldier in the present war, which was cheered by all present. The chairman on behalf of the society, called to the attention of the RED CROSS the neglect that had been shown to the colored soldiers passing through the station. There was a response by Mr. Ellsworth, the head of the RED CROSS CANTEEN. He stated that no intent on the part of the Red Cross to discriminate against the colored soldier would be permitted and the case that was brought to his attention was not due to any part of Red Cross in failing to extend mercy, or perform its duty to any soldier of this NATION, though he be black or

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"The Surgeon General," Mrs. Moore said, "has advised me that colored nurses should be used in their own communities, and that training classes for such nurses is encouraged. As for sending nurses abroad it is impossible to tell where Negro troops will be stationed, and therefore it would be inadvisable to send Negro women abroad for nursing service."

Mrs. Semple described as splendid the work of the Negro women in Louisville.

Mrs. Semple is well known to the Colored women of Louisville, as she has attended a number of meetings. Of course a man "shot to pieces" or ravaged with fever cares a whole lot about the color of his nurse. Despite the short story writers ever nurse does not fall in love with the man she nurses. The argument that Colored women cannot be sent abroad because there's no telling where Colored troops are is not worth much. A Nurse is a Nurse, and a Wounded Man is a Wounded Man.

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must stop 'passing the buck' to the white, and further stated that he was War Department whenever our nurses ask to be sent to the front.</

AMERICAN RED CROSS ENROLLS FIRST COLORED RED CROSS MEETING

Special to THE

Jackson, Tenn.—Miss Frances R. Elliott, she has been enrolled as a nurse is the first colored applicant to The communication informing Miss Elliott of her selection and which indicates that the fight for the recognition of colored nurses by the Red Cross has been won, follows:

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
National Headquarters
Washington, D. C.

July 6, 1918.

Miss Frances R. Elliott,
305 Lafayette St.,
Jackson, Tenn.

My dear Miss Elliott:

Just a line to tell you an interesting fact. You have the honor of being the first colored nurse to be enrolled in the Red Cross. Your pin number is No. 1. I thought you might be interested in this. I am glad the first nurse is likely to be so fine a representative of the profession.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Mary S. Gardner,
Director Bureau of Public Health Nursing.

Local representatives of the Red Cross and colored nurses residing in New York were highly elated when informed by THE AGE that the War Department and the American Red Cross had receded from its original stand and had decided to use colored nurses in the world war. It is believed by New York officials that within a few days colored applicants here will receive notice of their enrollment and their pin.

Reach Better Understanding.

ASSIGN COLORED NURSES TO BASE HOSPITALS 'OVER THERE'

War Department
Authorizes Statement on Subject

MORE ENROLLMENTS

General Pershing Has Been Asked
If Colored Nurses Can be Utilized to Advantage in France—
Public Greatly Pleased With
New Attitude of War Department and the Red Cross—
The Age Commended for Its Work
in Helping Nurses Win Fight.

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The War Department authorizes the following statement from Emmett J. Scott, special assistant to the Secretary of War:

"Orders were issued Monday by the War Department to the office of the Surgeon General, which will enable colored nurses who have been registered by the American Red Cross Society to render service for their own race in the army.

Colored nurses will be assigned to the base hospitals now established at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas; Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois; Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa; Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky; Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, and Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J. At these camps a total of about 38,000 colored troops are stationed.

"General Pershing has been asked by cable whether the services of colored nurses can be utilized to advantage among the American ex-

Mrs. Adah B. Thoms, assistant superintendent of Lincoln Hospital, this week received a communication from Miss Florence Johnson of the New York Chapter of the Red Cross, advising her to send the names of twenty-five nurses of the hospital for immediate service. A meeting of local nurses was held Monday evening and the call for twenty-five nurses discussed. A campaign has been inaugurated to get all colored registered nurses in and out of New York to enroll in the Red Cross and qualify in every way for acceptance.

Exclusive announcement in last week's issue of THE AGE that the colored nurses had won their fight for recognition in the American Red Cross came as an agreeable surprise to members of the race throughout the country. On every hand expressions of satisfaction over the new attitude of the War Department and the Red Cross were heard.

Among the additional colored nurses enrolled by the Red Cross are:

Miss Anna G. Papino, nurse at the Lincoln Hospital, New York.
Miss Mary Irwin, assistant superintendent at the Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, D. C.
Miss Effie Steid, a nurse at the Lincoln Hospital, New York.
Miss Edith Blair, a nurse at the Lincoln Hospital, New York.

Among the many communications commending THE AGE on the important part it has played in securing fair play for colored registered nurses was a letter from Mrs. Adah B. Thoms, assistant superintendent of Lincoln Hospital and president of the National Association of Graduate Nurses. The letter in part follows:

I feel that we cannot thank THE AGE enough for the splendid support it has given us through our entire struggle for recognition by the Red Cross. We are quite sure that the publicity given the matter through THE AGE and the untiring efforts made in our behalf by yourself have hastened our acceptance.

Miss Frances R. Elliott, the first colored nurse to be enrolled by the American Red Cross, is a graduate of Knoxville College and Freedmen's Hospital Training School for Nurses. She took post-graduate work in nursing and public health at Columbia University. Miss Elliott was appointed a nurse of the Bureau of Public Health Staff at Jackson, Tenn., by the American Red Cross, resigning to accept the position of head nurse at the Tuskegee Institute Hospital.

Next Miss Elliott was appointed by the United States Public Health Serv-

ice Unit No. 16, public health nurse at Chattanooga, Tenn., and was later sent back to Jackson, Tenn., by the Red Cross. It was while in Jackson that she received her enrollment card a few weeks ago. Miss Elliott is proud of the fact that a graduate of the Freedmen's Hospital Training School was the first to win recognition from the Red Cross.

Miss Anna G. Papino, the first Lincoln Hospital nurse to receive enrollment for active service in the American Red Cross, is a graduate of Ossining High School. She was graduated from Lincoln Hospital Training School in 1909.

Miss Papino was head nurse at the Daytona Normal School, Daytona, Fla., and has been asked by the president, Mrs. Bethune, to return. However, owing to enrollment, Miss Papino will remain at Lincoln, where for five years she has been head of the Home Department, where nurses receive their preliminary nurse training, until the Red Cross assigns her to duty.

RED CROSS FAVORS NEGRO WAR NURSES

N.Y.C. WORLD

JULY 7, 1918

Organization's Workers Call
Mass Meeting for Colored
People "to Establish
Greater Harmony."

NOW UP TO GEN. GORGAS
TO ACCEPT THEIR SERVICES.

To "Round Up" All Available
Nurses in Anticipation
of Early Call.

American Red Cross workers, eager to bring about acceptance by Surgeon General Gorgas of the offered services of colored registered nurses for duty at the front, will hold a mass meeting for colored people at the Palace Casino next Thursday night to establish greater harmony between the colored and white workers and promote a better understanding of the scope of Red Cross activities.

The World last week published statements by Mrs. Adah B. Thoms, President of the National Association of Colored Registered Nurses and Superintendent of Nurses at Lincoln Hospital, claiming that not one colored nurse had been accepted

for overseas service, or even in this country, with the status given white Red Cross nurses. Mrs. Thoms showed letters from the Surgeon General's office in which he authorized the statement that the use of colored nurses was "not contemplated at this time."

Red Cross Takes Initiative.

In view of this, and Mrs. Thoms's announcement that at least 100 colored registered nurses were ready to go aboard for service on short notice, the Red Cross workers have taken the initiative in a concerted effort to get colored nurses into the service both here and "over there." The organization has replied to the offers of the colored women from time to time, that they would gladly enroll them and would assign them as soon as the Surgeon General gave the word.

The color line, it is now said, has not been drawn by the American Red Cross, and the value of colored women as nurses is recognized. The colored nurses themselves have asked for no special assignment, but have expressed a willingness to serve wherever they may be sent. Members of the colored fighting force now in France for the United States, have asked that colored nurses be sent to them.

Mrs. Thoms said yesterday that, in view of the Red Cross plans, a meeting of all colored nurses in New York City had been called for Tuesday night at Lincoln Hospital, to discuss the situation and to "round up" those who could go at a moment's notice.

To Hold Nurses in Readiness.

"Representatives of the Red Cross have called on me since The World published the fact that we were trying in vain to get active service," Mrs. Thoms added, "and have assured me that the matter is entirely up to the Surgeon General. If that is the case, with the help of the Red Cross workers, we hope to be able to procure Gen. Gorgas's consent to have some of our nurses serve. At any rate, we are going to be in readiness if the call comes, and after Tuesday night we will know exactly what can be done by our women if they are wanted."

The Red Cross mass meeting Thursday night will be the culmination of a series of workers' meetings at the 15th Regiment Armory, to-morrow, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. The Chairman at the mass meeting will be George Gordon Battle, and the speakers will include Mrs. August Belmont and Col. Charles W. Anderson, former Internal Revenue Collector.

ELEVEN COLORED NURSES PASS STATE BOARD

At a meeting of the State Board of Nurses held in this city last week the following colored nurses successfully passed the Examination with high averages: Misses, Elizabeth Booker, Alberta Rush, Levader Mivics, from St. Augustines; Annized to advantage among the American Clarke, Julia Bruden, Emma Macsenburg, Willitt Bailey, Katie Corbett, Annie Cotton, Sadie Price from Lincoln, and Miss Annie Bailey.

While the reasons assigned by Secretary Baker for the failure to send any colored nurses abroad may seem sufficient to the War Department, they do not seem to us to finally dispose of the question.

For some time there will be wounded American soldiers in France, whose immediate removal to this side will not be expedient nor feasible. Nurses will be required to care for these soldiers among whom there will undoubtedly be some colored soldiers. As the necessity may arise from time to time for the replacement of the nurses worn out in the service, colored nurses could and should be substituted, at least to the extent of removing the ban so far successfully maintained against their service abroad. It is the moral duty of the War Department to remove this ban.

COLORED NURSES FOR COLORED ARMY CAMPS

ORDERS AT LAST ISSUED BY WAR DEPARTMENT MAKE OPENING AT SIX BASE HOSPITALS IN THIS COUNTRY—TO BE USED FOR COLORED SOLDIERS ONLY—EXCLUSION WAS OFTEN CONDEMNED AT LIBERTY CONGRESS.

Washington, D. C., July 22, 1918. Orders were issued today by the War Department to the office of the Surgeon General, which will enable colored nurses who have been registered by the American Red Cross Society, to render service for their own race in the Army.

Colored nurses will be assigned to the base hospitals now established at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kansas; Camp Grant, Rockford, Illinois; Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa; Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky.; Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio and Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J. At these camps total of about 38,000 Colored troops are stationed. General Pershing has been asked by cable whether the services of Colored nurses can be utilized to advantage among the American Expeditionary Forces.

COLORED NURSES SEEK WAR SERVICE

PHILA PA TELEGRAPH JUNE 6, 1918

Resentment Felt Because of Apparent Exclusion from Medical Corps.

MANY HAVE VOLUNTEERED

Resentment is felt by colored people of this city, and elsewhere, because of the apparent exclusion of colored nurses from the nursing service of the American Red Cross, according to Dr. Nathan F. Mossell, superintendent of the Frederick Douglass Memorial Hospital, Lombard street above Fifteenth.

Virtually every colored graduate nurse in the country has volunteered for Red Cross service, he said, but no attention has been paid to them by the Red Cross authorities. The same attitude exists, he said, towards the enrolling of colored physicians in the Army medical service.

Four weeks ago, Miss Ethel M. Browne, superintendent of nurses at the Douglass Hospital, received a questionnaire from the National Red Cross headquarters at Washington. She was asked to express her willingness for field service. Miss Browne filled in the questionnaire, noting on it that she is colored, and offering the services of herself and of the eighteen colored nurses at the hospital. Her offer has been ignored, Dr. Mossell said.

He told of a nurse of colored blood, but who looked like a white woman, who was accepted for service at Camp Dix. Her brother was a soldier at that camp. The two chanced to meet. Other nurses were astonished at her greeting to the colored soldier. She admitted that she had colored blood and almost immediately was asked to leave the camp, according to Dr. Mossell.

The physician said that prejudice is sapping the whole-hearted loyalty of the colored race.

"There is no German propaganda among the people of my race," he said. "Rather it is American prejudice propaganda."

SAYS COLORED PEOPLE MUST KEEP COOL HEADS

COLUMBUS JOURNAL NOVEMBER 15, 1918

Rev. Mr. Gilliam Declared Colored Nurse Was Rejected During Epidemic at Sherman.

"Level heads and cool thinking will be our greatest assets in the after-war period," declared Rev. Edward I. Gilliam, chairman of an annual

meeting of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Columbus chapter, held last night in Odd Fellows' Hall, Long Street and Garfield Avenue.

Following a report of the year's work, in which the treasurer gave the receipts as \$1500, results of investigation in instances of alleged discrimination against the colored race were read by the chairman.

"In the case of the refusal of United States employment agencies," said Rev. Mr. Gilliam, "to register colored men as skilled workmen, C. H. Mayhugh, assistant director of the employment service, Ohio branch, made investigations and remedied conditions."

An instance was cited by Rev. Mr. Gilliam in which army nurses at Camp Sherman refused to accept as a nurse a young colored woman of Columbus, graduate of a Baltimore hospital, at the time of the influenza epidemic.

Local membership of the association is about 700.

Following are the new officers selected: Rev. Mr. Gilliam, president; Mrs. Elmer Crawford, vice president; Dr. W. J. Woodlin, treasurer; S. T. Kelly, secretary; executive committee, J. S. Garrison, Mrs. Webster Byrd, Miss Anna Hughes, Miss Mae Merchant, Foater J. Lewis, Rev. Dr. E. W. Moore, Dr. W. A. Method, N. B. Allen, Samuel T. Jamison.

N Y C SUN JUNE 6, 1918 NEGRO NURSES.

A Complaint That 600 Who Are Ready Are Not Wanted.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Last Friday you announced "a drive for nurses for the Red Cross." There are now in the United States between 500 and 600 registered colored nurses who are waiting and eager to enlist as such. They are not wanted.

Two years ago a well known physician of Bellevue Hospital went to Washington to interview Miss Delano, president of the Red Cross. He knew the excellence of these colored nurses and asked recognition for them.

The result of this interview was the establishment of the Lincoln Base Hospital Unit. Nothing came of it and ten months later this unit was dissolved and no reason given. In August, 1917, a letter was sent by Miss Delano to the Colored Nurses Association, asking them to "enroll for service at the proposed base at Des Moines, Ia., and to recommend an efficient chief nurse." The nurses enrolled and did suggest a chief nurse, but no hospital was established at Des Moines.

Last September another letter from Miss Delano to the same association asked for "names of twenty of the best nurses and that applications be forwarded by them." This was done in October, but no word up to date has been received by any of the nurses.

In January one of these nurses, who had a record of 99 per cent in the State

examinations, wrote to the Surgeon General's office and received the reply "that there were no openings in the army for a corps of colored nurses."

On May 10 a prominent nurse sent a telegram to Miss Delano, having seen her appeal for trained nurses, and also one to the Surgeon General's office, asking "what was the outlook for the admission of the colored nurses in the Red Cross." The reply was that they were perfectly willing at all times to enroll colored nurses, but no accommodations had been made by the Surgeon General.

The Surgeon General's reply was that no accommodations had been made for colored nurses, but he advised them to keep in touch with the Red Cross, and so it goes on, one shifting the responsibility upon the other.

Why, I ask, are 600 registered nurses kept from national service because their skin is not white?

MARIE CROSS NEWHAUS, Chairman of the Women's Civic Committee of Justice.

NEW YORK, June 5

COLORED NURSES TO GET DIPLOMAS

NEW ORLEANS, LA., JUNE 5, 1918

Ten To Receive Certificates In First Aid Work Here Friday

Ten colored women will receive certificates in first aid nursing Friday evening at the Pythian Temple theater. The graduating exercises will include an address by Miss L. Agnes Daspit, director of the bureau of nursing of the Gulf Division of the Red Cross.

The women to receive certificates are: Alice Armstrong, Victoria Boyer, Marguerite B. Casey, Bertha F. Desarant, Vivian G. Antoine, Estelle E. Miller, Evelyn M. Patron, Jennie B. Parker, Theresa W. Gottschalk and Idalia B. Dotson.

The class was taught by Louisa J. Ross, R. N., Dr. R. J. Vining and Ethel Smith. The course included home care, first aid and dietetics and hygiene. While these graduates will not be fitted for nursing duty they will prove useful for home service work when the call for Red Cross nurses has cut down the number of colored registered nurses in New Orleans.

The program follows:

Opening chorus, "Ode to America," by the class; paper, "The Relation of Dietetics to Health," by Marguerite B. Casey; selection, Prof. W. J. Nickerson; paper, "Woman and Her Relation to the World War," by Evelyn M. Patron; poem, "The Red Cross Mother," by Estelle Miller; oration, "The Relation of Hygiene to the Community," by Bertha Desarant; song, by Alma Lilliel; address by Miss Daspit; remarks, Mrs. Cohn, "America," by class and audience.

2,000 COLORED NURSES ENROLL IN THE RED CROSS

The New York Age
**Congratulatory Letter
Read from Theodore
Roosevelt at Con-
vention of
Nurses.** 9-7

WOMEN HUMILIATED

9-7-18
**Many of the Nurses Allege They
Were Mistreated on Trains
While on Their Way to the
Convention to Further Plans
for Offering Their Services to
Their Country—Mrs. Adah B.
Thoms Is Re-elected President
of Association—To Meet Next
Year in Boston.**

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.)

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—At the eleventh annual convention of the National Association of Colored Nurses, held here, was a letter to Mrs. Adah B. Thoms from Col. Theodore Roosevelt congratulating the association on the fact that 2,000 colored nurses have enrolled in the American Red Cross.

Colonel Roosevelt's letter follows:

My dear Madam:

I most heartily congratulate you, and I congratulate the committee on the fact that the Red Cross have finally enrolled the 2,000 colored nurses in this country for active nursing service, and that the surgeon general has promised that as speedily as possible they will be assigned to duty. I am as pleased as possible from every standpoint. With heartiest congratulations,

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Letters of greeting and congratulations also were received from the surgeon general at Washington and Miss Jane A. Delano, chairman of the American Red Cross.

The purpose of the association in choosing St. Louis for its meeting place this year was to get more closely in touch with nurses of the West and Southwest. The local nurses' association of St. Louis had widely advertised the meeting, which was largely attended, and which increased its membership to a considerable extent. The meeting was one of the most successful in the history of the association.

"Service" is the Watchword.

The recent acceptance of colored nurses by the American Red Cross formed one of the chief topics for discussion. The sentiment of the entire body was that service should be their watchword. The nurses are not unmindful of the fact that every endeavor has been made to ignore their many proffers of service to the Red Cross, and that only at the eleventh hour have they been accepted, but with one accord they agreed that they would not stop now for the adjustment of racial grievances, but would go forth, wherever influenza and twenty-three of the sent, just as our boys went without questioning or hesitancy, with the assurance within themselves that he who pays most dearly the price of democracy shall one day surely enjoy the privilege of equality of opportunity to all mankind.

Another point of discussion was the "Jim Crowism" which can no longer be said to exist only below the Mason-Dixon Line. Many of the nurses while enroute to the convention to make further plans for offering themselves wholeheartedly to the service of their country were so shamefully humiliated on the trains and in places supposed to be for the accommodation of the public that it was decided to send a letter to Secretary McAdoo, protesting against such conditions in "The Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave."

Many interesting papers were read, which will appear from time to time in the *Medical Journal*. The St. Louis nurses were the most charming hostesses and the association feels that they were wise in deciding to convene in St. Louis. The next session will be in Boston.

Officers for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mrs. Adah Belle Thoms, New York; first vice-president, Miss Mary M. Merritt, Louisville; recording secretary, Miss Bertha Thomas, Louisville; assistant recording secretary, Mrs. A. Hankal Bailey, St. Louis; corresponding secretary, Miss Petra Pinn, West Palm Beach; assistant corresponding secretary, Mrs. Mollie Ben-

nett, Nashville; treasurer, Mrs. Nanni L. Kemp, Philadelphia; chaplain, Miss Mary Mahoney, Boston.

NURSES WON'T WALK OUT NOW.

**Reconsider Action on Strike
Called for Friday.**

LOS ANGELES CAL TIMES
OCTOBER 29, 1918

**Put Profession Above Race
Prejudice for Present.**

**County Hospital is Crowded
with Influenza Patients.**

There will be no strike of nurses at the County Hospital Friday on account of colored girls seeking admission to the training school. Yesterday the resignations of the 126 nurses were withdrawn, and they expressed their determination to stand by the hospital. Conditions are abnormal at the institution, Supt. Martin states. The wards are crowded with influenza patients, seventy of the nurses have the influenza and twenty-three of the number are patients at the hospital.

As a result, an additional burden has been thrown on the well nurses. If the nurses had stuck to their determination to quit if colored students were admitted, Mr. Martin says, conditions at the hospital would have been in a deplorable state. He says, however, that he felt sure he could depend upon the loyalty of the nurses to keep the hospital going at a strenuous time.

Though the names of four colored girls are on the eligible list for appointment as student nurses, they are far down on the list, and, as the hospital has its full quota of students, they would not be called for some time. The white student nurses objected to breaking a rigid rule in force at the hospital, and gave notice that they would resign if the Supervisors made an order admitting colored girls to the hospital as student nurses. The Supervisors made such an order, and the 126 nurses sent in their resignations, to take effect November 1.

The Supervisors gave Mr. Martin full power to deal with the situation, and he succeeded in having the resignations withdrawn. He stated yesterday that he will stand by the order of the Board of Supervisors with reference to the admission of colored girls, but at the same time he hopes the nursing staff will see the matter in its true light and forget race prejudice.

Denies That Red Cross Draws the Color Line

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
JUNE 28, 1918

In order to ascertain definitely whether there was any discrimination against colored nurses in the American Red Cross, there was a meeting held last night by the Community Center of Public School No. 83, Dean street and Schenectady avenue, in the auditorium of the school, and fully 500 colored men and women attended. Several members of the Brooklyn Chapter were present to state the views of the organization.

George E. Wibecan, president of the Community Center, introduced as the speakers Mrs. E. G. Cummings, head of the speakers bureau of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Red Cross; the Rev. Petersen Boyd, pastor of St. Philip's Protestant Episcopal Church, and William White, editor of the Chicago Defender, one of the leading colored newspapers of the country. There were also present 100 persons representing the Liberty Unit and the Lexington Unit of the Young Women's Christian Temperance Association (colored), Lexington Avenue Branch.

Mrs. Cummings, in defense of the American Red Cross, remarked "that any stories that were circulated pertaining to discrimination against colored nurses were without foundation; that the organization was enrolling them, provided they were registered nurses from recognized nursing institutions. Such stories were perhaps a part of a widespread propaganda used for the purpose of breaking down the working of the organization by creating ill-feeling and inciting the colored people on the mere pretense of discrimination on account of their color." She emphasized the point that the American Red Cross did not discriminate against anyone on account of their race, creed or color.

She suggested that a committee be appointed for the purpose of drawing a suitable petition or set of resolutions requesting that the surgeon general appoint colored registered nurses enrolled in the Red Cross. The chairman appointed a committee, consisting of William Chadwick, chairman; Miss Marichie Lyons, Miss E. Blair, graduate nurse (colored) of Lincoln Hospital; Mrs. Henry D. Mars, president of the Liberty Red Cross Unit (colored), and Mrs. Edwin F. Horne, president of the Young Women's Christian Association, Lexington Branch (colored), Unit of the Red Cross. They were instructed to report back at the next meeting of the forum, which will be held on Thursday evening, July 4, in the school auditorium.

Dr. Boyd also in his remarks upheld the statements of Mrs. Cummings and pointed out clearly the organization

was open to all in a common cause. PETITION TO SEND

NURSES TO FRANCE
The American Red Cross Drive a petition is being circulated for signatures, calling upon the Secretary of War to recommend to the surgeon general of the army that he send some of our nurses over to France to care for our boys. The petition says among other things: 12-21-18

"We feel that we are entitled to this recognition. Our boys would be cheered to see their women, and our women would be happy to have the opportunity of nursing them and helping to make them happy."

"You, Mr. Secretary, we feel can do this. We are absolutely sure that you believe in the square deal. We have responded to every call. This is our country and our flag. We have fought for it loyally in every battle and we feel that we are entitled to share in all of the honors."

"Our nurses are awaiting your command."

NEGROES MAY NOW JOIN MEDICAL CORPS

UTAH STANDARD
JULY 18, 1918

Negroes may now enlist in the medical corps of the regular army by application at the United States recruiting office if they can qualify. They must be 18 to 21 years of age or 31 to 41, just without the draft age. They must be able to pass an acceptable physical examination.

COLORED NURSES SENT TO CAMP DODGE, IOWA

(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Twenty colored nurses have been assigned by the American Red Cross to the base hospital at Camp Dodge, Ia., and already they have assumed their duties.

The understanding is that they are to care for all soldiers at the hospital regardless of color.

This is thought to be the first move on the part of the Red Cross to send colored nurses to look after sick and disabled soldiers. The intimation has been given out here that colored nurses will be assigned to other base hospitals in the near future.

Now that the ice has been broken

many colored Americans are hopeful that the next move of the Red Cross will be to send colored nurses overseas.

Surgeon-General Gorgas Calls for Red Cross Nurses

Washington, D. C., Aug. 23.—Surgeon-General Gorgas, of the United States army, has called for the enrollment of 8,000 graduate nurses to enter the service at the rate of 2,000 a week. Says he: "The army today is growing faster than the Nurse Corps is increasing. I therefore urge upon the American Red Cross, through its agencies, to bring to the attention of the trained nurses of this country the necessity of immediate offer of service and their enrollment in the Army Nurse Corps. With the rapid increase of colored troops in the army, the necessity of larger numbers of colored nurses will be apparent." Women who desire to register and enroll for this service should write to Miss Jane Delano, headquarters of the American Red Cross (Army Nurse Section) or apply to the Red Cross authorities in the locality in which they reside.

BIRMINGHAM ALA AGE HZ 12
OCTOBER 13, 1918

Fifteen Negro Girls Go to Camp McClellan to Nurse Influenza Patients

Local Red Cross Chapter Sends Aid Upon Call for Help

Because of the great need of nurses at Camp McClellan, Anniston, Ala., a message to the Birmingham Red Cross reached Birmingham yesterday for help, and the nurse training department of the Colored Industrial High school at Eighth avenue and Fourteenth street, was called upon to furnish 15 of their pupils now in training, and in a short while Prof. A. H. Parker, the principal of the school, had secured the young women and they were forthwith sent to the camp in Anniston, in charge of Minnie Moore, a colored trained nurse. Prof. Parker states that not a single girl, mother or father, objected when told that they were needed as nurses for the soldiers in camp.

The nurse training department at the high school is only two years old and they have accomplished some very creditable work in the district, and this department is now one of the special features of the school.

The nurses were sent under the auspices of the local Red Cross chapter.

Mrs. Ada Belle Thoms, of New York, was re-elected President of the National Association of Colored Nurses, which recently convened in St. Louis, Mo. Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt sent Mrs. Thoms a letter congratulating her upon 2000 colored nurses enrolling in the Red Cross.

PHILA PA TELEGRAPH
(JUNE 15, 1918)

To Enroll Colored War Nurses. The Southeastern Chapter of the American Red Cross has been requested by the national headquarters of the organization to enroll colored nurses. Candidates must be graduates of a training school with at least a two-year course and must be 21 years old. The nurses enrolled are to be assigned to duty by the War Department.

GREETINGS TO THE NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—DELIVERED BY MRS. ADAH BELL THOMS, R. N.—AT PHILADELPHIA, AUGUST 30, 1918.

Mr. President, Members of the National Medical Association.

It is a very great pleasure I assure you to be present at this convention. First to tell you how much we appreciate the very great honor conferred upon the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses in being asked to send a representative to your meeting. When the invitation first came from Dr. Alexander, it was received with much pleasure, but when later he said that the representative would be expected to make an address, I cannot say that very much pleasure abounded, especially since the task was imposed upon your most humble servant.

Nurses as you know make excellent listeners, but they are not very proficient in the role of speakers. Therefore I shall not attempt to address this splendid body of men, but shall merely extend to you the very, very hearty greetings of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, of which I have the honor to be president, and very briefly tell you of a plan which we feel sure you will not only approve, but support.

The National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses propose to establish a national registry which will be open to graduate registered nurses only. This registry will be the means of aiding doctors and the public in general in securing the best nurses with little exertion, and will likewise be a means of helping the nurses to secure desirable positions. Our object in establishing this registry is to raise the standing of nursing, for if the doctors will employ only the best nurses, then only those who are determined to be the very best will enter the profession. Throughout the country there are many small hospitals and sanitariums trying to conduct training schools for nurses while in many instances the nurse in charge of these institutions has very little knowledge beyond the pupils she is endeavoring to instruct. These hospitals and all hospitals should have as their superintendents and head nurses only those who are graduates of large training schools and hold the title of "R. N." (Registered Nurse). These are the only ones properly fitted for such work and are a benefit and credit to any institution. If the doctors who have charge of these small hospitals would see that they employ only graduate registered nurses it would be an incentive to those in training to pursue their course until they became proficient and thus would eliminate the incompetent nurse.

Many times it has been suggested that the Doctors' and Nurses' Associations become affiliated. I take this opportunity of saying

that there can be no closer affiliation between any two individuals or bodies of individuals than the working to accomplish an object worth while. All who are working for progress and uplift are affiliated, whether knowingly or unknowingly. To speak of becoming affiliated suggests that a separateness or difference exists. The very nature of our work makes it impossible for us to work apart. From the humblest nurse just beginning to take temperatures to the most renowned specialist we are one in purpose. We are all contributing our bit toward making the world a happier and healthier place to live in.

Our object in bringing this proposition before you is not to ask if you will employ graduate registered nurses only in your institutions, we know you will do that, but simply to inform you that we can put you in touch with these nurses, the details to be distributed later.

While our convention was in session at Louisville a few days ago, a letter came from the Red Cross Headquarters at Washington, asking for one hundred and fifty nurses to serve in the government hospitals that will in all probability be established at Des Moines, Iowa. I was called home to take up the matter with the officials of Lincoln Hospital, and we are selecting fifty of those best fitted for the work.

Gentlemen: My appeal to those of you who are going to camp, and my earnest endeavor to reach those who are already there, is that when these nurses arrive that you will lend them your moral support, treat them as you would your wives, sweethearts and sisters, and keep up the standard of nursing and service among our people. The nurses of today are not the toys of yesterday, they are women of purpose, and have a part in all that is helpful and uplifting.

We have entered this work whole hearted and we stand for all that our motto implies, "Not for Ourselves but for Humanity."

As I look back over the years and see the progress that has been made by our race in the medical and nursing profession, I am filled with pride to know that despite the handicaps that beset us on every side, we are moving steadily forward and when, as our president said in his wonderful masterpiece, "that the world must be made safe for democracy," whether he meant to include us or not makes no difference. We are ourselves that can keep us from sharing with the rest of mankind the liberty and freedom for which democracy stands.

COLORED NURSES ADMITTED
Announcement has been made through the honorable Emmett J. Scott that orders had been issued by the War Department to the

Office of the Surgeon General that will enable colored nurses who have been registered by the American Red Cross to render service for their own race in the Army. It is announced that colored nurses will be assigned to the base hospitals now established at Camp Funston, Fort Riley, Kas.; Camp Grant, Rockford, Ill.; Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Ia.; Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky.; Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, and Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J. At these camps a total of about 38,000 colored troops are stationed.

This is good news, of course, even if it is belated news. There never was an excuse, however, for refusing to enlist Negro nurses, not even in the most intensely Southern sections of our country. First of all, it should be known to the authorities that Negro nurses are not only welcomed into the best regulated Southern homes, but are actually sought, and some of the best physicians and surgeons in the South avail themselves of the services of Negro nurses, not as a special favor to the Negro nurses, but because they constitute the best corps of nurses that this country has. There is something about their patience and cheerfulness and even the sympathetic touch of their hand that make them especially desirable that gives them an advantage over all others. Of course, their general qualifications are determined by the examining board, which is in every case white, so that that question has not at all been raised. For our own part, we have been puzzled in reaching a conclusion as to why the authorities have failed to recognize the worth of the colored woman as a professional nurse. As a rule they are stronger in handling a patient, more cheerful, more sympathetic and extremely patient and kind, and by this we make no inference whatever to disqualify others.

By accepting the colored nurses in the Red Cross service our government is availing itself of a very efficient service, and we hope that many of our young women will qualify themselves for this work.

LOS ANGELES CAL RECORD JULY 30, 1918 COUNTY'S NURSES DRAW COLOR LINE

County hospital nurses will strike if negro nurses join them. This decision was reached at a meeting of the nurses held Monday night when a formal notification to the board of supervisors was drawn up and signed by more than 50 graduate nurses, alumni and students. The notification will be presented to the chairman of the board by a committee of three representing each class at the hospital.

THE RED CROSS COLOR-LINE

If the charges made by the speakers at the Community League Service rally at the Lafayette Sunday are true, then those conditions, in the interest of justice to the black race, should be set right at once. It is little less than astounding to hear that the Red Cross, which has long waged a subscription campaign among colored Americans, refuses on any conditions to send qualified colored trained nurses to France. *N.Y. News 8-1*

If true the colored people throughout the country cannot but believe that the Red Cross has misrepresented itself among colored people. If true, then the statesmen of America who believe in simple justice should see to it that the Red Cross drop at once its color line. Not only in justice to the colored members of the Red Cross, but in justice to the tens of thousands of black Americans to be in Europe, the colored nurse should be sent under the same conditions as the white nurse. We call this crying wrong to the attention of Secretary Baker and Special Secretary Scott of the War Department for correction.

NURSES ENROLL TO

DO RED CROSS WORK

At the big patriotic meeting held at Carnegie Hall on the evening of June 14, an urgent appeal was made for the enrollment of nurses in the Red Cross. Assuming that the invitation included all nurses, irrespective of color, many colored nurses enrolled.

Mrs. Adah B. Thoms, acting superintendent of nurses at Lincoln Hospital, is urging all nurses of recognized, registered schools to enroll for Red Cross nursing service, although no assurance has been received that colored nurses will be accepted.

At the patriotic meeting held last week a number of colored nurses were invited to attend, through the courtesy of Mrs. William K. Draper of the American Red Cross. Seats were reserved for them and they were given every consideration.

COLORED WOMEN RESPOND.

Seventy Have Enrolled In Special Nurses' Classes.

There has been an unusual response on the part of the colored women to the Red Cross appeal for large numbers of women to take first aid training to meet the increasing demands for trained nurses in this country. Nearly seventy women have enrolled in the classes at the Flanner house settlement this week and it is expected that enough applications will come in by Monday to organize six complete classes, making a total of ninety women.

Miss Hunt is instructor and the work is under the direct supervision of Mrs. W. F. Molt. There have been several

the Red Cross at all times had been willing to enroll colored nurses meeting requirements for service in military hospitals, but that the assignments of these nurses to duty depended upon the Surgeon-General.

Jane A. Delano, director of the Department of Nursing, said several attempts had been made to organize a base hospital unit consisting of colored nurses, and it was hoped that it might be possible to select them for service at the colored cantonment contemplated at Des Moines, Ia.

NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM

All colored registered nurses are requested by Mrs. W. W. Butterworth, Child Welfare chairman of the Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense, to call at the Pythian Temple, Red Cross Chapter No. 6 to answer the call of the government and assist in the Child Welfare canvass.

NEGRO WARDS FOR SHERMAN HOSPITAL

Camp Sherman, Chillicothe, Ohio, Sept. 17.—The government has appropriated approximately \$10,000 it became known, yesterday for a building at Camp Sherman of a home for colored nurses. Work on the building at Camp Sherman will start in a few days, it was stated and it is probable that it will be ready before Christmas, and it is expected negro Sammys will be cared for by nurses of their own color. With the announcement of the building of the home for colored nurses came the news that negro patients in the hospitals are to be separated from the white ones in as many cases as possible. If separate wards cannot be allowed, wards will be divided one side for the negroes and one side for the whites.

Major Charles Abel, camp personnel adjutant, has been transferred to Washington to do special work. When his work is completed in that city he will return to this camp.

NEGRO NURSE NAMED BY DR. A. W. CARNES

DALLAS TEX TIMES HERALD
JULY 18, 1918

Complying with numerous petitions of Dallas negroes that a woman of their race be employed as a visiting nurse among the sick of their race, Dr. A. W. Carnes, city health officer, has secured the services of Marietta Gordon, who will devote her entire time to making inspections of the homes of negroes and visiting sick families of that race.

The newly appointed nurse assumed her duties Wednesday. She comes to the health department highly recommended.

COLORED NURSES NOT BARRED.

Red Cross Says Appointment Lies with Surgeon-General, However. Announcement was made to-day that

NEW YORK, June 8.

COLUMBUS O CITIZEN COLORED NURSE INVESTIGATION.

Editor of Citizen:

The undersigned were appointed a committee by the Columbus Branch of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People to make inquiry into the refusal of Miss Kathryn Leary, Chief Army Nurse, Camp Sherman, a few days since, to accept the services of Miss Lillian Patterson, a trained nurse, who had gone to Camp Sherman in response to Miss Leary's appeal for nurses, on account of her color, stating to Miss Patterson that she was sorry, but could not see her because she was a colored woman.

The committee went to the headquarters of the Red Cross for the Lakes Division, which includes the State of Ohio, and presented the matter to the chief officials. We were informed that Miss Leary was not at this time, nor at the time she refused Miss Patterson, a Red Cross nurse, but chief army nurse, under the control, and subject to the direction of the War Department, and that the Red Cross was in no wise responsible for her unwarranted action.

We were also informed by the chief of the division of nurses that Miss Leary had rejected 15 white nurses from Cleveland, and that written protests of this action was then on file in their office.

They were also advised that Miss Leary had denied announcing through the papers that she wanted trained nurses to come at once, not waiting to telegraph, etc., as appeared in the Columbus dailies.

We were assured that the Red Cross would enroll and engage colored and white nurses on exactly the same footing without discrimination, also that this was their policy in every department of their war work.

It would appear that it is up to the War Department to take cognizance of Miss Leary's discrimination, and our branch of the N. A. A. C. P. has reported its findings to the national headquarters in New York.

EDWARD L. GILLIAN,
FRED W. MOORE,
Committee.

NEGRO NURSES WOULD AID.

Protest Refusal of Services by Red Cross.

Negro Red Cross nurses who wish to serve American soldiers in France are being denied permission by the War Department according to Fred A. Moore, editor of the New York Age, who made a plea for the negro nurses at a patriotic rally of two thousand negro girls and women, held here for the purpose of inaugurating a campaign to provide colored for the negro sick and wounded in Gen. Pershing's forces.

"We have trained colored Red Cross nurses, ready to go to the front and minister to the wounded in the hospitals," he said. "They are no longer content to stay here, and the American Red Cross must stop 'passing the buck' to the War Department where our nurses ask to be sent to the front."

TWO NEGRO NURSES GO TO CAMP SEVIER HOSPITAL

Mary Johnson Morgan, wife of T. Morgan, and Carrie Alexander, negro nurses, left yesterday afternoon for Camp Sevier, Greenville, S. C., nurse influenza cases. Mary Morgan has been employed by Drs. King and Gibbon at their office for several years.

KANSAS CITY, MO JOUR

April 28, 1918

Negro Nurses Graduate.

Graduation exercises for nine nurses of the Old City hospital were held at the Negro Y. M. C. A. building, Nineteenth street and the Paseo last night. The principal address was made by Col. Prof. J. E. King of the Sumner high school, Kansas City, Kas. Other speakers were W. P. Motley, president of the hospital and health board, H. I. Benjamin, a member of the board, and Nelson C. Crews.

WHITES COMPLAIN OF LACK OF NEGRO NURSES

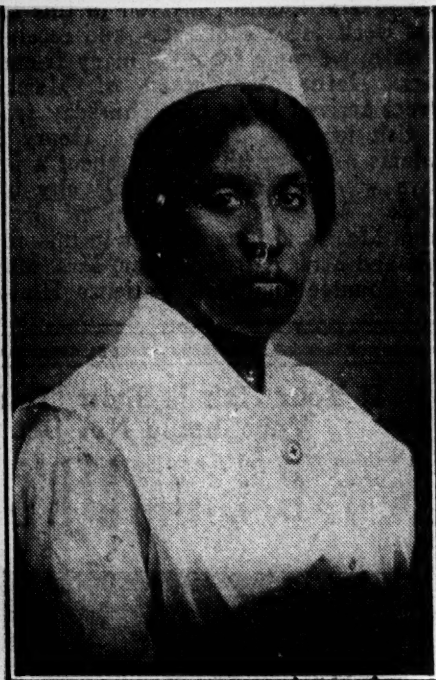
(Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.)

Rocky Mount, N. C.—The epidemic of Spanish influenza is at its height in Rocky Mount. The whites seemed to be more greatly affected, as the death roll to date numbers thirty-one, all whites except one. Some of the whites are complaining because the colored women are refusing to nurse their sick and keep their houses clean, even making threats as to what will be done after the war.

Negroes always nurse their own sick and bury their own dead and never murmur. Disfranchisement, lynchism, unpaved streets, poor sanitation, lynching and the most cruel discrimination practiced upon Negroes in the South will finally change the old ante bellum program. The old-time Negro is passing off and a new Negro is appearing on the scene, who feels his equality and desires to be treated humanely. It is strange, anyhow, that Negroes can cook and nurse white people, and yet Negroes are not good enough to live in same blocks and ride in same cars with these same whites. Well, the truth of the matter is the Negro is a little shy of the "flues."



New York Age 3/28/18
MISS FRANCES E. ELLIOTT



New York Apr 3 / 28 / 18
MISS ANNA B. PAPING